

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS:	Frank G. Belmonte et al.)	PATENT APPLICATION
)	
)	
APPLICATION NO.:	10/713,660)	Group Art Unit: 1625
CONFIRMATION NO.:	9847)	
)	
FILED:	November 14, 2003)	Examiner:
)	Taylor V. Oh
)	
FOR:	STAGED COUNTERCURRENT)	Attorney Docket No.:
	OXIDATION)	37,481

Amendment in Response to Final Office Action Filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

The Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments, remarks and arguments in order to place the above-referenced application in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks and Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.